THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The master’s degree in Theological Studies is a Bible-based graduate program designed to prepare professional and lay ministers spiritually, academically, professionally, and cross culturally in areas of biblical studies, theological understanding, and practical ministry.

Objectives
Upon completion of this program the student will be expected to:

1. Develop an advanced knowledge in the study, interpretation, and application of the Word of God.
2. Improve skills relating to the various administrative and leadership processes in their chosen specialization.
3. Demonstrate analytical thinking.
4. Utilize basic disciplines and methodologies so that independent study of Scriptures may be continued throughout their ministry.
5. Be prepared to enter advanced academic programs.

Program Requirements
To be accepted into this program, the student must have an undergraduate degree with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.50 from an accredited college or university. Any exceptions must be approved by the Dean of the Harrison School of Graduate Studies.

Thesis Option
A “Thesis Option” is provided for the M.Div. and all Theological Studies degree programs except Children and Family Ministry. This option is especially designed for and usually limited to students who plan to continue their graduate work in a Ph.D. doctoral program after completing their M.A.

In this option, the student takes two 3-hour courses of Thesis in the Elective Component of the degree plan. These two courses must be taken in two consecutive regular semesters (Fall-Spring or Spring-Fall, not available in Summer). This option must be approved by the Graduate Chair of Theological Studies during the semester prior to the student’s first semester of thesis.

Graduation Requirement
Students must apply for graduation and successfully pass the Graduate Comprehensive Examinations or the Thesis Option prior to being approved for graduation from the Registrar’s Office. Application for graduation must be made by the end of late registration in the semester in which the student anticipates to graduate. In order to qualify for a specific graduation date, graduating students must have all program and course requirements completed. Contact the Graduate Studies Office and Registrar’s Office for more information.